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Express Mail Label No. EV510294121US

PATENT APPLICATION
Docket No. 14458.41

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Darcy W. Greep et al.

Serial No.: 10/021,607

Filed: December 12, 2001

For: UTILIZATION OF A MULTI-CHARACTER
MATERIAL IN A SURFACE COATING OF AN
ELECTROSURGICAL INSTRUMENT

Confirmation No.: 7181

Examiner: Aaron F. Roane

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TRANSMITTAL FOR REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION

Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR § 1.114 for the above-identified application.

A. Instructions and Averments

____ Enter the Amendment under 37 CFR § 1.116, previously filed on ____.

08/04/2004 AWONDAF1 00000043 10021607

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385.00 OP

☒ This application is entitled to Small Entity Status under 37 CFR §§ 1.9 and 1.27.

B. Enclosed

☒ An Amendment and Response for entry in the present application.

☒ A Terminal Disclaimer.

☐ To render this RCE timely filed, enclosed is a Petition for Month Extension of Time.

☒ A Certificate of Mailing by "Express Mail" certifying a filing date for the enclosed application by use of Express Mail Label No. EV510294121US.

☐ An Associate Power of Attorney.

C. Payments

☒ Form PTO-2038 submitting payment in the amount of \$440.00 is enclosed to cover the following fees:

☒ the \$385.00 RCE filing fee pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.17(e); and

☒ the \$55.00 fee for the Terminal Disclaimer.

☐ Please debit Deposit Account No. 23-3178 in the amount of for the government filing fee.

☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any additional fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 23-3178.

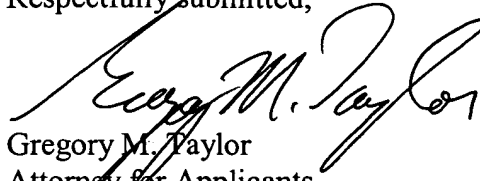
☐ The issue fee set forth in 37 CFR § 1.18 at or before mailing of the Notice of Allowance, pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.311(b).

☒ A duplicate copy of this letter is enclosed.

Please address all future correspondence in connection with the above-identified patent application to the attention of the undersigned.

Dated this 2nd day of August 2004

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gregory M. Taylor". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "G" and a stylized "T".

Gregory M. Taylor
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